

**Ashland Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**February 4, 2008**  
**Ashland Elementary School Library**  
**7:00 PM**

**Present:** Glenn Dion, Rick Alpers, Dan Golden, Jeanette I. Stewart, Beth Bartlett, Leigh Sharps, Don Marsh, Bob Comeau, Jen & Jamie Lyford, David Ruell, Sandra Coleman

Chairman Dion called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes for January 21, 2008**

Selectman Stewart motioned to accept the minutes of January 21, 2007 with minor corrections. Selectman Sharps seconded the motion. Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye. Selectman Bartlett abstained because she was absent last meeting.

**Old Business**

**Pay As You Throw** – Chairman Dion mentioned that the cut off date for volunteers for a committee is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Selectman Stewart has a couple of people that are interested.

**Tax Deeding** – The process has been started on 99 Winona Road. Mr. Alpers said that none of the tenants have left yet. One tenant has signed a lease with another landlord. Mr. Alpers is working with another landlord in the area so that the process will go smooth. The auction is being planned for the end of April. Selectman Bartlett mentioned that the landlord at 30 Main Street said he would be willing to apply for Section 8 for people that might need it, he has a three bedroom apartment. Thirty-three Main St. and 7 Washington St. will be deeded later this year in May if there are no changes.

**Personnel Policy Revisions** - None

**2008 Budget** – Mr. Alpers mentioned that a final decision had to be made to support or not support Article 7, the Amendment that increased the capital reserve fund for the sidewalk plow from \$15 to \$35 thousand. The Budget Committee voted to support it. **After some discussion Selectman Stewart moved to support the increase from \$15,000 to \$35,000. Selectman Golden seconded. Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye, BB - Aye.**

David Ruell asked if an amended article is supposed to be certified. Chairman Dion said that he doesn't think that they need to be amended. After some discussion, Mr. Alpers said that he will check.

**USDA Water Loans Refinancing** – Mr. Alpers stated that Northway Bank needed more information which has been sent to them. He is waiting for them to get back to him on when the loan can be closed. The interest rate is locked in so that will not change.

### **New Business**

**Authorizing Treasurer to go out to bid for TAN** – Chairman Dion explained that each year the Treasurer needs to go out to bid for TAN. Mr. Alpers said that the Town is hoping not to have to use the money. **Selectman Bartlett motioned to authorize the Treasurer to go out to bid for TAN. Selectman Sharps seconded. Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye, BB - Aye.** Chairman Dion mentioned that when the bids come in, they will be opened at a meeting.

Selectman Bartlett asked about the delinquent taxes and how much has been collected. Mr. Alpers said that notices went out last week. Chairman Dion said that he has talked with some residents that say their escrow company has not paid their taxes yet.

**Veteran Tax Credit** - Tax Map/Lot #001-002-002-3C – Mr. Alpers stated that this is a surviving spouse and that all the appropriate paper work has been received. Selectman Stewart motioned to accept the Veteran Tax Credit for this property. Selectman Bartlett seconded the motion. **Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye, BB - Aye.**

**Elderly Tax Exemption** - Tax Map/Lot #004-002-021 – Mr. Alpers stated that this exemption is for people in the 65 to 74 year bracket. This person falls under \$60,000 by about \$7500. **Selectman Stewart motioned to accept the Elderly Tax Exemption for this property owner. The motion was seconded by Selectman Golden. Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye, BB - Aye.**

**Town Administrator Report** – Mr. Alpers mentioned that the retirement fund could increase about 45%. LGC wants its members to join them in a legal battle against the state. They are asking for \$268.00 from Ashland, which is based on the population. Mr. Alpers will attend a meeting to get more information.

**Employee Recognition: None at this time**

**Public Comment and Concerns**

Mr. Alpers mentioned that there is a rotten egg smell at the Fire Station. After some investigation, it was thought that it was a battery on the ladder truck. Mr. Huckins will look into it.

**Non – Public Session – None****Adjournment**

Selectman Stewart motioned to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Selectman Golden seconded. **Roll Call: GD – Aye, DG – Aye, LS – Aye, JS – Aye, BB - Aye.**

Approved by the Board of Selectmen:

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Glenn R. Dion

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Daniel P. Golden

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Beth G. Bartlett

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Jeanette I. Stewart

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Leigh Sharps

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Date

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell  
2/6/08